

# Commercial Walking Tours

## CASCADE CAVE

( MUST PURCHASE TICKETS > 15+ MINS BEFORE TOUR STARTS )

TICKETS SOLD AT THE WELCOME CENTER,  
SALES STOP 15 MINUTES PRIOR TO TOUR TIME.

ALL TOURS BEGIN AT CASCADE CAVE.  
LOCATED 3.6 MILES FROM THE WELCOME CENTER.  
(Driving directions below.)  
TRANSPORTATION IS NOT PROVIDED.

Cascade Cave is one of the largest caves to be found in Carter County. Visitors often remark on its large passageways and on the grandeur of its formations. The walking tour will bring visitors through the “heart” of the cave – Cascade Cave, through a cave collapse valley into North Cave, and before departing – over to a 30+ ft. underground waterfall. While on a tour visitors can hope to learn about the cave’s geologic formations, cave ecology, and some local history.

**DAILY: 10:30 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.**

**WALKING DISTANCE**  
**& DIFFICULTY:** 3/4 mile with 225 stair steps, some stooping

**DURATION:** About 75 minutes

**TEMPERATURE:** 50-60 degrees (variable)

**ADMISSION:** \$10 —age 13 & up  
\$ 7 —age 3-12      FREE—age 2 & under

### DIRECTIONS TO CASCADE CAVE

Cascade Cave is appx. 3.6 miles from the Welcome Center. Leave main parking lot, turn left. At the park entrance turn right onto Rt. 182. In appx. 1.6 miles you will turn right onto Rt. 209. Cascade Cave parking lot will be located appx. 0.6 miles on the left.

# Commercial Walking Tours

## X CAVE

( SUGGEST PURCHASING TICKETS > 15 MINS BEFORE TOUR STARTS )

TICKETS SOLD AT THE WELCOME CENTER.  
ALL TOURS BEGIN IN FRONT OF THE WELCOME CENTER.

X Cave is comprised of two narrow, vertical joint-passageways. These passageways differ so that it seems as if you are walking through two separate geologic creations rather than a singular cave. While inside visitors will learn of the cave’s geologic formations, cave ecology, and some local history.

**DAILY: 1:00 p.m. & 4:30 p.m.**

**WALKING DISTANCE**  
**& DIFFICULTY:** About 1/4 mile with 75 stair steps, some stooping, narrow passages

**DURATION:** About 45 minutes

**TEMPERATURE:** 50-60 degrees (variable)

**ADMISSION:** \$ 9 —age 13 & up  
\$ 6 —age 3-12      FREE—age 2 & under

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- ◆ Guided cave tours are led by trained Interpretive Staff Members.
- ◆ Cave tours are unscripted, varying from one tour guide to the next. Topics generally covered include history, geology, cave ecology, etc.
- ◆ Conditions within each cave vary daily. To be best prepared visitors should dress according to the weather conditions outside. Most visitors prefer wearing a light jacket while on tours.
- ◆ Comfortable walking shoes with good tread are recommended. Avoid flip-flops and other low-tread shoes as some surfaces may be wet/slick.

### Winter Upcoming Events

November 4-5: Murder Mystery Theater  
December 10: Breakfast with Santa

### Winter/Spring 2023

January 26-29: Winter Adventure Weekend  
February 10 & 11: Valentines Murder Mystery Dinner Theater  
April 28-29: Camper Appreciation Weekend

### Additional Information

- ◆ Come and see our 5 natural bridges!
- ◆ Follow us on Facebook to see upcoming events!
- ◆ Come visit the Gift Shop at the Park for souvenirs and gifts. Hours are 9-5 Daily!
- ◆ Hike on our 30 miles of trails, varying in difficulties, including three that allow horse back riding and five that allow mountain bikes.
- ◆ Have breakfast, lunch, or dinner at Tierney’s Cavern restaurant located inside the lodge.
- ◆ Check out staying overnight with us in the Lodge, Cottages or at our Campground.
- ◆ Horse back riding on Saturday’s and Sunday’s until the end of September
- ◆ Kayak & Canoe rentals available for use on Smoky Lake from Friday-Sunday!



Visit us on the web!



#BestKeptSecret



Like us on Facebook

# Self-Guided Caving

## HORN HOLLOW CAVE

(SELF-GUIDED CAVE EXPLORATION)

### PERMIT REQUIRED - PERMITS GIVEN OUT AT THE WELCOME CENTER

Horn Hollow Cave system is a self-guided cave exploration opportunity available at Carter Caves. To enter this cave, visitors must first obtain a permit (free) from the Welcome Center. Permits for Horn Hollow are available year-round, however, issuance is weather-dependent. Laurel Cave is currently closed due to the federally endangered Indiana Bats that will be using that cave to hibernate. *Laurel Cave reopens on May 1, 2023.*

**REQUIREMENTS:** Visitors must have at least one other person in their group, wear closed-toe shoes, and provide their own working flashlight (cell phones cannot be used as a light source). More information available at the Welcome

# White-Nose Syndrome & Cave Tours

White-Nose Syndrome (WNS) is a disease that is killing 70-100% of hibernating bats in infected caves. WNS does not have any effect on humans, livestock, or, pets, only hibernating bats. WNS was first noted in some caves across the park in February 2013.

### REQUIRED POST-TOUR DECONTAMINATION PROTOCOL

All CCSRP cave tour participants will be *required* to participate in a post-tour WNS decontamination procedure. This procedure will ensure that the bottom of both shoes of each participant are treated with a mixture of Woolite and water. This may help to prevent the spread of the spores which cause WNS. **NOTE: Please review these required post-tour procedures before the purchase of any cave tour tickets.**

### PROHIBITED ON CAVE TOURS

- ⇒ **Pets** (service animals, as recognized by the ADA, are permitted)
- ⇒ Use of any **tobacco products** and/or vaping
- ⇒ **Strollers** (due to narrow passages and stairs)
- ⇒ **Removing anything from the cave**
- ⇒ **Touching formations**

**NO REFUNDS are issued for cave tour tickets.**

**PICTURE TAKING IS PERMITTED ON CAVE TOURS AT CCSRP (no flash photography on bats)**

## Other Caves

### Open Memorial day thru Labor Day

In addition to all the cave tours mentioned, there are other caves to come explore during the summer!

**Saltpetre Cave:** Offers commercial walking tours, lantern tours, ghosts and legends, and even spelunking tours!

**Bat Cave:** Our longest cave on the park, completely wild and undeveloped. Offering different levels of spelunking adventures not for the faint of heart!

**Laurel Cave:** Self Guided cave for FREE exploration!

## CARTER CAVES STATE RESORT PARK CAVE TOUR SCHEDULE



### LATE FALL SCHEDULE

**October 31 Thru November 13, 2022**

Cave tour schedules always available online at  
**PARKS.KY.GOV**

Founded in 1946, Carter Caves State Resort Park is home to an expansive system of natural caves. Some of these caves are open to the public for viewing and exploration at various times throughout the year.

Look inside this schedule for tour descriptions, tour times, and prices!

Visitors may purchase cave tour tickets inside of the Gift Shop at the Welcome Center. Tickets are sold by day—there are no reservations or advance sales.

**Cave tour tickets are non-refundable.**

### Carter Caves - Important Phone Numbers

Front Desk: (606) 286-4411

Office of Interpretation: (606) 286-7009

**TOUR SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE**

TAKE NOTHING BUT PICTURES  
KILL NOTHING BUT TIME  
LEAVE NOTHING BUT FOOTPRINTS

### GROUP SCHEDULING

Organizations with large groups of people (20+ individuals) may schedule privately led cave tours or activities through the Office of Interpretation. Call us today at (606) 286-7009 to find out what activities we offer that will best suit the needs of your group.

Rates and availability will vary.

**\$100 minimum for all private programming.**

Lodging, dining, venue reservations, and other group scheduling needs can be met by our Group Sales Coordinator. Ph. (606) 286-7004



344 Caveland Drive  
Olive Hill, KY 4116  
(606) 286-4411

